

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 138076
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:MLISSFELT:MS
APPROVED BY P - MR. NEWSOM
EUR - MR. VEST
IO/UNP - MR. NILES
NEA - MR. NEUMANN
S/S-O:JETHYDEN

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O P 312214Z MAY 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
WHITE HOUSE 0294

S E C R E T STATE 138076

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PORG, LE, FR

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S BILATERAL WITH DE GUIRINGAUD
MAY 29: LEBANON

1. DURING COURSE OF HOUR-LONG BILATERAL WITH THE SECRETARY
(NEWSOM, VEST AND MOOSE ALSO PRESENT), FRENCH FOREIGN
MINISTER (ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR DE LABOULAYE AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 138076

POLITICAL DIRECTOR MERILLON)RAISED MIDDLE EAST.

2. CONTINUING GISCARD'S OBSERVATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT
MAY 26, DE GUIRINGAUD NOTED FRENCH WORRIES AT WAY UNIFIL
HAS BEEN HANDLED. GISCARD DISCUSSED THIS WITH WALDHEIM IN
NEW YORK LAST WEEK AND MADE CLEAR FRANCE WAS NOT READY TO
HAVE PERMANENT UN FORCE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON LIKE IN CYPRUS.

GISCARD ALSO MADE CLEAR FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO EXTEND STAY OF HER FORCES IN LEBANON BEYOND SEPTEMBER TERM; IF ANY EXTENSION ENSUED, IT WOULD BE ONLY FOR VERY LIMITED TIME.

2. THE SECRETARY SAID WE'LL HAVE TO SEE WHAT OCCURS, FOLLOWING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, AND OBSERVE PALESTINIAN ACTIVITY. THE SECRETARY SAID HE HAD ASKED SAUDIS IN NEW YORK TO URGE RESTRAINT ON PALESTINIANS AND WE ARE WORKING ON SYRIANS ALSO TO INFLUENCE ARAFAT. THE SECRETARY CHARACTERIZED THIS AS AREA WHERE COMBINED FRENCH AND

U.S. EFFORT COULD BE USEFUL. REFERRING TO INADEQUACIES OF LEBANESE ARMY, THE SECRETARY SAID NO ONE FORESAW ANY EFFECTIVE LEBANESE MILITARY PRESENCE FOR AT BEST SIX MONTHS. U.S. WILL CONTINUE ITS AID TO LEBANESE FORCES, AND URGE SAUDIS TO HELP TOO. ESSENCE OF PROBLEM, THE SECRETARY EMPHASIZED IN CONCLUSION IS POLITICAL. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

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